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FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

7 Jan 76

PROGRAM The Today Show

STATION WRC TV
NBC Network

DATE January 5, 1975 7:00 AM

CITY Washington, D. C.

SUBJECT An Interview with Tim Butz

JIM HARTZ: After CIA station chief in Athens Richard Welch was assassinated, U. S. intelligence officials point out that he had been identified as an agent in a magazine called Counter-Spy, a Washington based publication which specializes in exposing American intelligence activities, and suggested that this identification may have led to his murder.

Well, to answer these charges, Counter-Spy's editor Tim Butz is in our Washington News Center this morning with "Today" Washington correspondent Douglas Kiker.

Doug.

DOUGLAS KIKER: Thank you, Jim. Good morning, everybody.

Mr. Butz, here is your winter edition of Counter-Spy. And inside it you list country after country, and you list the names or what you think are the names of the station chiefs, CIA agents there. Doug Porter, who is the co-editor of Counter-Spy, your associate, says that it is conceivable that the Athens News, which published the name of Richard Welch as a CIA agent, could have gotten that name from Counter-Spy. Do you agree?

TIM BUTZ: I think that Mr. Porter was quoted out of context. That was in an Associated Press dispatch that appeared in many newspapers yesterday. With Counter-Spy and its limited circulation -- we circulate about three thousand copies throughout the United States -- we have the element of distribution or redistribution after it goes to a subscriber. We can guarantee in any way, shape or form that a copy of Counter-Spy wasn't seen by the Athens Daily News, because we don't know what some-

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one might have done afterwards....

KIKER: What -- what are you trying to accomplish?

BUTZ: It's the way the New York Times perhaps would land up on Chairman Mao Tse-tung's desk some morning.

KIKER: What are you trying to accomplish publishing the name of agents?

BUTZ: Well, we're not doing it simply for expose. The article where we listed the hundred and fifty station chiefs, for example, was an analysis of the role of station chief, an analysis of what they do. And we listed the names primarily to give people an idea of how widespread the CIA is. From Katmandu to Karachi, there are CIA stations in some of the most innocuous places in the world, men operating at the request of the United States government. And what we're trying to do is raise the question of what are they doing there and, even more important, how are they functioning.

KIKER: Well, a lot of people -- David Phillips, former CIA agent, says you're endangering agents' lives. Mike Ackerman, who was on the Today show, a former CIA agent on the Today show last week, said you're endangering American agents' lives.

Do you think you are or not?

BUTZ: No, we're not endangering lives. Our policy at Counter-Spy is to only reprint names that have already appeared in the foreign press. We don't engage in a campaign of ferreting out people under deep cover and printing their name in an irresponsible manner. We take the tack -- and we think it's a very responsible one -- of going over the foreign press, picking out those names that have been identified, rechecking them against several different sources, and then publishing them only if it comes up in the context of a critical nature.

KIKER: Well, obviously other intelligence networks, the Soviet network and so forth: they know our agents; they know those names. You've got a book there that purportedly was published by the KGB that lists many of the names -- fellow professionals. But by publishing the names, don't you make U. S. agents targets for terrorists who probably wouldn't have access to such information?

BUTZ: People such as Mr. Welch are....

KIKER: Who was shot down by three masked gunmen.

BUTZ: Right. Right. They are symbols of an American

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agency that many people feel has conducted a worldwide campaign of terror itself. We don't try to put together something that could be called a hit list, as Mr. Colby and others have tried to refer to us. This information is available worldwide. If Counter-Spy was to stop publishing the names tomorrow, the names would still be published in newspapers throughout the world. There's a worldwide move on against the CIA that has led to a lot of expose activity. Counter-Spy is not a journal of expose; it's a journal of analysis.

KIKER: You have announced that you're going to publish the names of seventy more agents who are operating, CIA agents, in Angola, France and Sweden next month. Do you intend to do it?

BUTZ: So far some of those lists have arrived in the mail from the foreign press. Liberation Newspaper in France, which is a daily, is planning on publishing the names there. And if they appear in France, there's a very good likelihood that we will reprint them in Counter-Spy.

Our policy on printing names is constantly under review, and there're several things we have to take into consideration when we proceed with the publication of names. The primary point in our mind is "Will it benefit the American people? Will it lead to a greater understanding of what the CIA is doing around the world?" If that first criteria is filled, if it indeed will help to foster better understanding and, even more important than that, better public debate on the role of the CIA, then we'll proceed. But we are in contact with our advisers; we're in contact with our supporters, people who in the past has indicated a willingness, trying to get their feedback.

The printing of names is almost a tactical exercise and not something we're married to.

KIKER: Where do you get the names? Are you sure that your sources are correct when they give you these names? And how do you know you're not fingering non-agents?

BUTZ: Well, we take several precautions. For example, the newspaper Information in Denmark recently ran an eight page supplement to its newspaper outlining CIA operations in Denmark. Now it's kind of hard to imagine that CIA operations in Denmark would fill eight pages of newsprint, but, in fact, it did. We take those names. We cross-check them against the State Department Registry, which is a publicly available document. And Mr. Ackerman on Friday detailed a little bit of how you could identify CIA agents from that document. And we also use another source, one that was never talked about before. But being honest with you,

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what we use is embassy telephone directories. From an embassy telephone directory, you can ascertain who is in a CIA station simply by the rooms that the people are located in and the telephone exchanges.

KIKER: The British have an intelligence system also. What do you think would happen if somebody like you published an equivalent of Counter-Spy in Great Britain? They'd be put in jail. They would be restrained, wouldn't they?

BUTZ: Well, there is an Official Secrets Act in Great Britain that would probably restrain the ability of people there to conduct those operations. And one of our fears is that a similar restriction on the First Amendment will be put into effect here....

KIKER: You're publishing.....

BUTZ: ...in this country.

KIKER: That's right. You're publishing these because the First Amendment gives you the right to publish them. I want to ask you, do you think you are abusing your First Amendment rights?

BUTZ: No. The Bill of Rights, especially the First Amendment, was put together because the framers of the Constitution, the leaders of the country two hundred years ago felt that the public had a right to know, that the public had the right to free association, and that people had a right to say what they wanted.

The purpose behind Counter-Spy, the purpose behind the Fifth Estate, has always explicitly been to foster a public debate on the question of national security. Until three years ago, such things weren't discussed in public. They were talked about only behind closed doors in Washington. We felt that the lessons of Vietnam had a very specific mandate: to take that question of national security out of the secret doors of the White House and Langley, Virginia and put it out in the public where people could have their input, where people could debate this critical question that everyday becomes more interesting and exciting.

KIKER: Okay. A member of -- a member of your advisory board, Arthur (?) Richard Sales, says, and this is a quote: "Our job is to expose every clandestine agent until the CIA abandons its covert actions." Is that your mission, to, in effect, destroy the agents, or try to?

BUTZ: Well, I don't think that "destroy" is the proper

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name. Our target is obviously covert operations and the intervention into the affairs of foreign countries. We also feel that the CIA is not capable of existing unless it carries out this sort of function.

In truth, Mr. Kiker, the CIA serves very little purpose when it comes to intelligence. The vast majority of critical intelligence needed for policy-making and decision-making in this country comes from the National Security Agency and the State Department. Their intelligence collection programs, their analytical programs are far superior to anything that the CIA has. We feel that that leaves the CIA in a certain light, and that light is to act as the cop around the world, to enforce, in a covert fashion, the whims of the National Security Council, whims that may not necessarily be the desires of the American people.

IKER: Finally, very quickly, who finances Counter-Spy?

BUTZ: Counter-Spy is financed by the subscribers, by sustainers, people such as Norman Mailer and others.

IKER: Thank you very much. And as far as I can see, Mr. Butz, what you intend to do really is to keep it up -- is what you say.

BUTZ: We're going to continue to foster the public debate. We're in touch with our advisers, and what course we'll take from here is up to everyone.

IKER: Thank you very much, Tim Butz, who is the co-editor of Counter-Spy. Time now for a station break.

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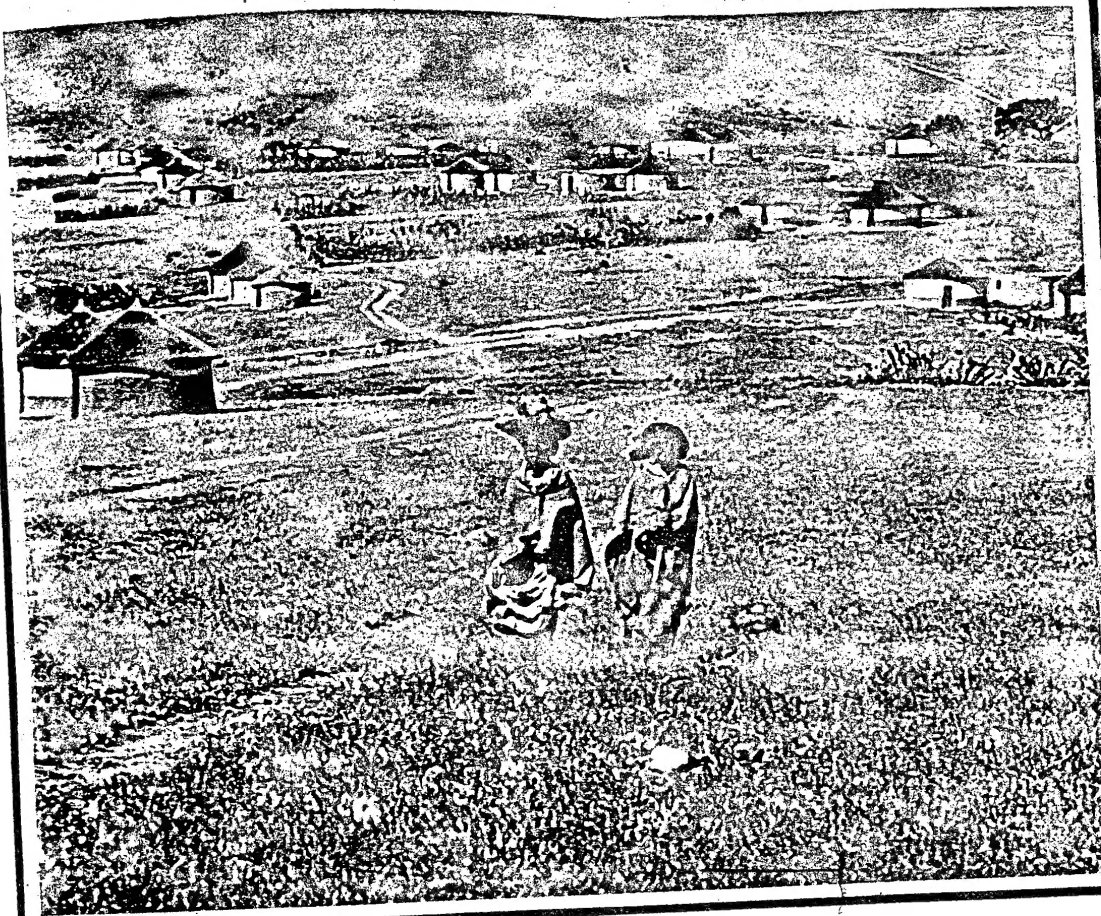
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HARVARD CLUB SEMINARS

1976 WINTER LECTURE SERIES AT DUMBARTON OAKS

The Harvard Club of Washington, D.C. is sponsoring another unique series of four lectures dealing with the great civilizations and arts currently under research at the Center for Byzantine Studies, Dumbarton Oaks, and at the Center for Hellenic Studies. The lecturers are the directors of research for Byzantine, Hellenic, Pre-Columbian studies and Landscape Architecture. Dumbarton Oaks has graciously offered the use of its facilities (1703 Thirty-Second Street, N.W.) for these lectures. There will be opportunity to view the collections after the Pre-Columbian and Byzantine lectures.

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Wednesday Evenings — 8:00-9:45 p.m. — The Music Room, Dumbarton Oaks

Jan. 28

1. "What was Modern in Medieval Art?"

by

William C. Loerke, Director of Studies, Center for Byzantine Studies (1971--). B.A., Oberlin, 1942, Classical Archaeology. Princeton, M.F.A. 1948, Ph.D. 1957. Taught Art History at Brown U., Bryn Mawr College, U. of Pittsburgh. Publication: "The Monumental Miniature" in "The Place of Book Illumination in Byzantine Art."

Feb. 11

2. "Thucydides: Power, Empire, and Democracy"

by

Bernard M.W. Knox, Director of the Harvard Center for Hellenic Studies (1961--). Cambridge B.A. in Classics. Yale Ph.D. 1948. Professor of Classics at Yale until 1961. His publications include *Oedipus at Thebes* (Yale) and *The Heroic Temper* (Berkely).

Feb. 25

3. "Realism and Fantasy in Mochica Art"

by

Elizabeth P. Benson, Director, Center for Pre-Columbian Studies, and Curator for the Pre-Columbian Collection. Wellesley, B.A., Catholic University, M.A. She has taught at Columbia University and the Catholic University of America. Among her publications are *The Maya World* (Thomas Y. Crowell) and *The Mochica: A Culture of Peru* (Praeger).

March 10

4. "Ambition and Allegory: Gardens for Propaganda, Piety and Poetry"

by

Elisabeth B. MacDougall, Director of the Center for Studies in Landscape Architecture and Associate Professor in the History of Landscape Architecture. Vassar, B.A., Insitute of Fine Arts, N.Y.U., M.A., Harvard, Ph.D. She has taught at Colorado College, Boston University, and Harvard. Her publications include "Ars Hortulorum: Sixteenth Century Iconography and Literary Theory in Italy" (Dumbarton Oaks), and "The Sleeping Nymph: Origins of a Humanist

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1976

SMITH HEMPSTONE

"Our Times"

column of commentary

In From the Cold

By SMITH HEMPSTONE

ARLINGTON, VA. -- On the orders of the President, they buried him among heroes. And it was meet and right so to do.

For although Richard Skeffington Welch never wore a uniform, the CIA's station chief in Athens -- gunned down Dec. 23 outside his home by three unidentified assassins and buried yesterday (Tues., Jan. 6) in Arlington National Cemetery -- was killed in action after nearly a quarter of a century in the service of his country.

Who killed 46-year-old Dick Welch? Take your pick:

- The KGB, which in 1968 published his name in the East German book entitled Who's Who in CIA.

- The editors of the Washington quarterly, Counter-Spy, which last year published the names of 150 CIA station chiefs, including Welch.

- Norman Mailer and his radical chic friends, who provided the initial funding for Counter-Spy.

- Author Philip Agee, a former CIA agent (and member of Counter-Spy's advisory board), who has published the names of scores of his former colleagues and called for their "neutralization."

- The editors of the Athens News, an English language paper which in November published Welch's name and address and those of other CIA agents in Athens -- but declined to publish the names of 10 Russian KGB agents serving in Greece.

- The members of the congressional committees that for nearly a year have been holding the CIA up to ridicule and verbal abuse.

All of these, it could be said, had an indirect hand in Welch's murder, and it seems to me the time has come to put a stop to this sort of thing. Sure, the CIA has been guilty of errors of judgment, and at times has seriously violated its mandate. But these failings have been admitted and corrected. What the Agees and their ilk have to ask themselves is this:

Which side am I on? To which country do I owe allegiance? Do I want to be an accessory to the murder of one of my countrymen?

The identity of the masked men who pulled the trigger does not much matter. In all probability, Welch's murder was not a KGB assassination. There is an unwritten understanding between the two intelligence organizations that they do not target each other's senior officers (Welch is the first CIA station chief

(MORE)

murdered since the agency was formed in 1947).

The CIA's operation in Greece is a large one. The country has land frontiers with three Communist nations -- Albania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria -- and its islands stud the Soviet Union's sea lanes into the Mediterranean.

The fledgling agency's first group of officers, many of them graduates of the wartime OSS, played a key role in defeating the Communists in the Greek civil war of 1944-49. The Greek intelligence agency, the KYP, was set up with CIA help.

Because several members of the military junta that ruled Greece from 1967 to 1974 were KYP graduates, the CIA has been accused of masterminding the coup that brought the colonels to power. The CIA has also been accused, again without proof, of having engineered the temporary disposition of the Cypriot president, Archbishop Makarios, in 1974.

Welch served in Cyprus in the early 1960s, and it is possible that he was killed to settle an old score. But it is a better guess that he was murdered by members of some far-left Greek group not subject to Communist discipline.

As station chief, he was the biggest fish in the Athens pool. And that made him a natural target.

But Welch was more than a "fish" or a "target." He was a husband and the father of three children. He was a man who enjoyed music, a classics scholar, a chess buff and, despite being blind in one eye (a childhood accident that kept him out of the military after his graduation from Harvard in 1951), an ardent tennis player.

And remembering all this, it might have been nice if Sen. Frank Church and Rep. Otis Pike had managed to be on hand when Welch's 23-year-old son, a Marine lieutenant, brought his father's flag-draped coffin home to Washington's Andrews Air Force Base last week. But then their committees are charged with investigating the CIA, not honoring its dead.

So now a 32nd star will go up on the marbled wall of the entrance hall of CIA headquarters in Langley, Va. Those stars represent the intelligence officers who have lost their lives in 30 years of not-so-cold war.

And a few weeks from now, Counter-Spy will be coming out with an edition giving the names of CIA agents serving in Angola, Paria and Stockholm. It makes you sick.

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ER file



on behalf of the staff of the Club,
for your generous contributions to
the Christmas Fund which made the
holidays particularly nice!

Best wishes for a happy,
healthy and prosperous
New Year!

* * * * *

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, January 8 - Film-Lecture - "Winter in Mexico"

Thursday, January 15 - Gourmet Dinner

Friday, January 16 - Raw Bar

Friday, January 30 - Sipping Session

Wednesday, February 11 - Film-Lecture - "Angola:
A Different Africa"

Monday, February 16 - CLOSED (Washington's Birthday)

(EXCLUDED FROM THE Public Affairs)

FROM... THE INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF WASHINGTON

Sipping Session

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30 - 6:45 pm

There is a school of taste in the wine fraternity which because of early training of tongue buds, or of the vagaries of service abroad, or out of plain orneryness feel that the white wines from the north of Europe are superior to all others.

In truth, there are magnificent wines from the Moselle and its tributaries and from the Rhine in its many manifestations. The Chef will conjure up some Rhine delicacies to accompany the wines.

These will be the focal point of our Sipping Session on January 30. Reservations should be made by calling Mrs. Abbott at 296-7350. The limit is 75 persons. The cost is \$6.00 per person.



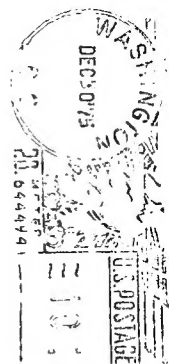
Through one of those quirks to which the human mind is wont to indulge itself on occasion and particularly so during the holiday season, the day of the week on which "Winter in Mexico" will be shown was mis-stated in our recent bulletin on the matter.

To clarify matters, January 8 is a THURSDAY and it is on THURSDAY, January 8 that "Winter in Mexico" will be shown.

THE INTERNATIONAL CLUB

Honorable William E. Colby, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

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